



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

*Statistics of an Improved Rural District (the Parish of Kilmurray) in the County of Cork.* By Dr. D. BULLEN.

[Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association, at Cork, 18th Aug., 1843.]

THE parish of Kilmurray constitutes a rural district, and is situate in the barony of West Muskerry, and west riding of this county. The Cork and Kerry turnpike road intersects it from east to west. Nine roads besides, repaired by Grand Jury presentment, traverse different portions of the parish. Six other roads not kept in repair, together with several lanes and cart-tracks, lead into the different townlands of the parish. It is abundantly supplied with water from numerous springs, and also by several streams, tributaries of the Lee, by which the district is bounded on the north-west.

The parish contains 10,778 acres, and its population consists of 3,689 individuals.

Number of families . . .	617	Children under six years of age	561
Number of farmers . . .	172	Illegitimate children under the	
Number of labourers . . .	508	same age . . . . .	19
Number of male servants . .	134	Some of these were not born in the	
Number of female servants .	115	parish. Two at least being sent from	
		some charitable institution in Cork.	

The parish of Kilmurray, together with three other parishes, each of much less extent, constitutes a union of parishes, according to the regulations of the Catholic Church. The Catholic population of this Union amounted, in 1841, to little more than 9000. The baptisms being duly registered, it appears that from June 1, 1842, to June 1, 1843, there were baptized 281. Of this number, 153 were males, and 128 females. Of this number, it is also to be observed that 2 were illegitimate.

The aged and infirm are in number . . . . .	112
The sick . . . . .	30

Of the farmers, there are 109 yearly tenants. Those who hold their farms by virtue of a lease, or some engagement in writing for a life or lives, or some short term of years, are in number 63. The farms vary in extent. The number of farmers holding each more than the specified extent of land is as follows—

9 farmers . . .	200 acres.	23 farmers . . .	20 acres.
24 „ . . .	100 „	9 „ . . .	10 „
28 „ . . .	70 „	3 „ . . .	5 „
29 „ . . .	50 „	and 13 less than . .	5 „
34 „ . . .	30 „		

Of those who hold less than 20 acres, the greater number are those, who, having enclosed a common, are virtually, or in fact, fee simple proprietors.

Amongst the farmers above enumerated are 10 who hold lands in other parishes, and whose farms are stated to exceed a certain number of acres, although that number may not be in the parish of Kilmurray, but only a portion of them.

The average rent of land is about 16s. per acre. The poor rates have been as yet but once levied on the parish. The amount was 196l. They may, in consequence, as they will be levied twice a-year, be set down at 400l. per annum. The tithe rent-charge amounts to 562l.; and the county, with the baronial cess, to about 600l.

	£.	s.	d.
Rents . . . . .	8,068	0	0
County Cess . . . . .	600	0	0
Poor rates . . . . .	400	0	0
Tithe rent-charge . . . . .	562	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£9,630	0	0

Hence, it appears, allowance being made for the lands kept on their own hands by the proprietors, that the rent and taxes may be estimated at 20s. per acre.

In the parish there are men over 20 years of age who are not married	380
Women of the same description . . . . .	331
	<hr/>
	711

We have not as yet a national school, but there are five private schools, and some of the children attend schools in neighbouring parishes. The total number of children at school is 423. There are in the parish about 800 who read and write, and 166 who can read, but not write. There also are several who can read and write in the Irish character, but as these also can read and write English, and I believe, understand it better than the written Irish language, it did not seem necessary to enumerate these.

Number of licensed public-houses three or four years ago . . . . .	11
Number of licensed public-houses at present . . . . .	5
Number of members of the Cork Temperance Society . . . . .	124

In the public-houses, other articles besides spirituous liquors are sold. Instances of intemperance in the use of these liquors are rare, and indeed scarcely ever heard of in this district. No case of committal for any such offence has for years come to the knowledge of the writer, although a constant resident in the parish. Faction fights of a most sanguinary nature had frequently disgraced the fairs held in this parish in former times, but they long since ceased altogether, and even several years before the great social and moral improvement effected in the habits of the people by the temperance movement.

There are in the parish but 73 tradesmen :—9 masons ; 12 smiths ; 15 carpenters ; 2 slaters ; 2 turners ; 1 cooper ; 8 weavers ; 13 shoemakers ; and 11 tailors.

There are in the parish no bakers or victuallers, but bread and groceries are retailed by several. Those whose circumstances enable them to partake of animal food, generally send to one of the neighbouring towns for it. These towns are Cork, Bandon, and Macroom ; Cork being within 16 miles from one extremity of the parish ; Bandon within 6 miles of another ; and Macroom within 3 miles of the part of the parish nearest to it.

Nine only of the natives or residents of the parish are known to subsist by begging, and there are none of them in the workhouse. It was stated in a late number of the Morning Chronicle, that there was in this country a numerous class of persons who had no fixed residence. To those who reside in the country no such persons are known, except a few of the beggars. The majority even of these have their cabins for occasional residence. Whenever it was thought proper to put in operation a certain Act of Parliament known by the name of the Insur-

rection Act, every one was obliged to have a fixed residence under the pain of transportation for seven years.

	£.	s.	d.
The wages of serving men per annum average . . . . .	4	0	0
The wages of females per annum average . . . . .	2	0	0
The sufficient clothing of a labourer and his wife per annum costs about . . . . .	5	0	0
A supply of fuel for a poor family, about . . . . .	1	10	0
The erection of a labourer's house costs about 6 <i>l.</i> , and lets for . . . . .	1	10	0

Of the labourers, about 170 are not constantly employed, or rather have entered into no engagement for constant employment with any one, but they are nevertheless seldom idle, having potato-gardens of their own to attend to, whether the gardens of the present, or those of next year. They are also employed during part of the summer in cutting and saving fuel for the year's supply.

The labourers make yearly engagements with the farmers, and some of them seldom remain a second year in the same employment, or consequently in the same house, and perhaps no labourer's family has remained 20 years in the same tenement. To the houses of 263 labourers no garden or premises of any kind are attached, except the narrow space between the door and the high road, where the necessity of making provision for next year's potato-garden obliges the labourers to have the hideous dunghills that offend the eyes of the passers by.

The farmer who diets his labourers, generally gives them for each day's work but 4*d.*, but when not obliged by his engagements with them to give constant employment, he must give 6*d.*, or even 8*d.*, when at a hurried season of the year. The labourer not dieted by his employer receives 8*d.* A labourer gets as much ground rent free for a potato-garden as he can sufficiently manure. When manured and ploughed by the farmer, the rent required for an acre averages 6*l.*

The farmer affords facilities for collecting materials for manure, and also draws home for the labourer the turf from the bog; and, in consequence, the farmer's labourer is generally in better circumstances than the gentleman's, who gives him 8*d.* a-day, without diet or any privileges, as they are called.

*On the Irish Silk Manufacture.* By W. COOKE TAYLOR, Esq., LL.D.

[Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association at Cork, 18th Aug., 1843.]

DR. TAYLOR commenced by stating that the silk manufacture was introduced into Ireland by the French refugees, whom the revocation of the Edict of Nantes compelled to abandon their country. There are no certain records for fixing the precise date when silk-weaving was commenced in Dublin, but it is generally believed that an ancestor of the present respected family of the Latouches commenced the weaving of tabinets or poplins and tabbareas in the liberties of Dublin about the year 1693. A great and fatal error was made by the new settlers in the very outset of their career; they adopted the principle of excluding the native Irish from the benefit of all the improved arts which they introduced, refusing to receive any of them as apprentices. The manufacture was consequently an exotic, forcibly prevented from taking root in the soil, and deriving its support chiefly from a system of artificial